

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY ~~USSR/Lithuania~~
 SUBJECT Canning Industry

REF
 CD
 CASE

DATE DISTR. 29 May 1951
 NO. OF PAGES 1 25X1A

PLACE
 ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
 (LISTED BELOW)

DATE
 ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO
 REPORT NO.

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1. The food canning industry of Lithuania is but little developed. There are a few small meat canning plants whose main production is bacon, which is exported to the UK.
2. There are five meat canning factories in Lithuania, the largest of which is at Kaunas. The other plants are located at Panevys, Siauliai, Klaipeda, and I believe the fifth plant is at Wilno.
3. The Kaunas plant employs about 600 workers and the other plants employ no more than 500 in each plant.
4. There is little canning of fish. There is one small plant in Sventoje, which is a port for fishermen, located north of Palanga. This plant cans very little fish because the cans are too expensive.
5. There is practically no home canning in Lithuania of vegetables or other products. Vegetables are usually stored in cellars and such products as potatoes and beets are stored in holes in the ground and covered with straw and earth during the winter.
6. I have never heard any figures on the incidence of Botulism, but because of the limited volume of food canning, the incidence would be low. However, during the Soviet occupation in 1940 and 1941, I know that a large percentage of the canning was deliberately spoiled by workers in the canneries. This was done because of the hatred felt toward the Soviets. The food was spoiled by deliberate improper closing of the cans.

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